

11 October 2004

Dear Chairman Michael Powell:

I am a citizen who is extremely seriously concerned about the dangers of media consolidation.

A prime example of media consolidation run amok is Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. The Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. This type of activity puts our democracy in harm's way. Instead of reporting the local events of the day, Sinclair chooses to produce and air a program whose goal it is to give a totally one-sided message to the listening public, and force its affiliates to air the program.

As a citizen and as a voting taxpayer, I am demanding that you, Mr. Chairman Powell, strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Do your job: make sure that our airwaves serve the public interest, as the law requires them to do. Thank you.